



total portuguese

- speak Portuguese – instantly
- no books
- no writing
- absolute confidence

p

To find out more, please get in touch with us.

For general enquiries and for information on Michel Thomas:

Call: 020 7873 6400 Fax: 020 7873 6325

Email: mtenquiries@hodder.co.uk

To place an order:

Call: 01235 400414 Fax: 01235 400454 Email: uk.orders@bookpoint.co.uk

www.michelthomas.co.uk

You can write to us at:

Hodder Education, 338 Euston Road, London NW1 3BH

Unauthorized copying of this booklet or the accompanying audio material is prohibited, and may amount to a criminal offence punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment.

First published in UK 2008 by Hodder Education, a division of Hachette Livre UK, 338 Euston Road, London NW1 3BH.

Total Portuguese Copyright © 2008, 2011, in the methodology, Thomas Keymaster Languages LLC, all rights reserved; in the content, Virginia Catmur.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher or under licence from the Copyright Licensing Agency Limited. Further details of such licences (for reprographic reproduction) may be obtained from the Copyright Licensing Agency Limited, Saffron House, 6–10 Kirby Street, London EC1N 8TS, UK.

Typeset by Transet Limited, Coventry, England.

Printed in Great Britain.

Impression 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Year 2014 2013 2012 2011

ISBN 978 1444 13806 1

Welcome to the Michel Thomas Method



Congratulations on purchasing the truly remarkable way to learn a language. With the Michel Thomas Method there's no reading, no writing and no homework. Just sit back, absorb, and soon you'll be speaking another language with confidence.

The Michel Thomas Method works by breaking a language down into its component parts and enabling you to reconstruct the language yourself – to form your own sentences and to say what you want, when you want. By learning the language in small steps, you can build it up yourself to produce ever more complicated sentences.

Perfected over 25 years, the all-audio Michel Thomas Method has been used by millions of people around the world.

Now it's your turn.

To get started, simply insert CD 1 and press 'play'!

About Michel Thomas

Michel Thomas (1914–2005) was a gifted linguist who mastered more than ten languages in his lifetime and became famous for teaching much of Hollywood's 'A' list how to speak a foreign language. Film stars such as Woody Allen, Emma Thompson and Barbra Streisand paid thousands of dollars each for face-to-face lessons.

Michel, a Polish Jew, developed his method after discovering the untapped potential of the human mind during his traumatic wartime experiences. The only way he survived this period of his life, which included being captured by the Gestapo, was by concentrating and placing his mind beyond the physical. Fascinated by this experience, he was determined that after the war he would devote himself to exploring further the power of the human mind, and so dedicated his life to education.

In 1947, he moved to Los Angeles and set up the Michel Thomas Language Centers, from where he taught languages for over fifty years in New York, Beverly Hills and London.

Michel Thomas died at his home in New York City on Saturday 8th January 2005. He was 90 years old.

CD I Track 1

Introduction

CD I Track 2

Words ending in '-ible' and '-able' in English (e.g. 'possible', 'probable') are similar in Portuguese. The Portuguese ending is *-ível* or *-ável*, with the stress on the *í* or *á*: 'possible' = *possível*. The unstressed *o* sounds almost like the English 'oo'.

Pronunciation of *rr*: *horível* = 'horrible'; *terrível* = 'terrible'

confortável = 'comfortable'; *provável* = 'probable'; *aceitável* = 'acceptable'

é = 'is' or 'it is'

CD I Track 3

para = 'for' as in 'for me'; unstressed *a* sounds like the 'a' in the English name 'Linda'

para mim = 'for me'. The *m* at the end of a word indicates that it is a nasal sound (pronounced through the nose).

o senhor = 'you' (speaking to a man); *a senhora* = 'you' (speaking to a woman). (There is a less formal form *você*, but you need to know when it is appropriate to use it; we will use *o senhor / a senhora* in this course.)

CD I Track 4

não 'not' and 'no' (*ã* is also a nasal sound). *Não* goes before *é* to mean 'not it is = it is not': *não é possível* 'not it is possible = it is not possible'.

To ask a question, just raise your voice at the end: *É possível?* = 'It is possible? = Is it possible?'

CD I Track 5

porque? (literally 'for what?') = 'Why?' Portuguese-speakers often add *é que* = 'is it that' after a question word: *Porque é que não é aceitável para o senhor?* = 'For what is it that not it is acceptable for you?' = 'Why isn't it acceptable for you?'

assim = 'like that', 'that way'

CD I Track 6

lamento, literally 'I lament' = 'I'm sorry' – the *o* at the end of *lamento* indicates the verb ending for 'I'. *eu* = 'I', but you only need to use this if you want to emphasise who is doing the action.

desculpe = 'excuse (me)'

mas = 'but'. The final *-s* will sound differently depending on what follows it. It sounds like the 's' of the English 'measure' when the following word starts with a consonant (e.g. *mas não é* = 'but it is not').

sim = 'yes'

Words ending in '-ent' and '-ant' in English (e.g. 'different', 'important') are similar in Portuguese. The Portuguese ending is *-ente* or *-ante*. Portuguese words only have one stressed syllable per word. Words ending in a vowel are usually stressed on the syllable before last, so on the *a* of *importante*: *importante* = 'important'.

diferente = 'different'

restaurante = 'restaurant'. The *s* here sounds like the English 'sh' because it's in front of *t*.

Pronunciation of an unstressed *e*: skate over it.

CD I Track 7

bom (masculine thing), *boa* (feminine thing) = 'good'

muito = 'very'

Pronunciation of *s*: the *s* of *mas* sounds like English 'z' when the following word starts with a vowel (e.g. *mas é* = 'but it is').

tenho = 'I have'

Pronunciation of *nh*: sounds like English 'ny'.

tenho-o = 'I have it'; *quero-o* = 'I want it'

agora = 'now'

Position of 'it' in the negative: *não o tenho* = 'not it I have = I don't have it'.

constante = 'constant'; *evidente* = 'evident'; *urgente* = 'urgent':
pronunciation of *g* and *ur*.

CD I Track 8

porque = 'because'

tem = 'you have'

o que (literally 'the what') = 'what'. In this case also, Portuguese-speakers often add *é que*: *O que é que tem?* = 'The what is it that you have? = What do you have?'

o used for masculine things; *a* for feminine things; *o / a* = both 'the' and 'it'

tem-no = 'you have it'. When you add 'it' to 'you have' you add an *n* to *o / a* to make it easier to say after the nasal sound of *tem*: *tem-no / tem-na*.

Position of 'it' with *porque*: before verb (like with *não* and question words): *porque (eu) o / a quero* = 'because (I) it I want = because I want it'; *Porque (é que) o / a tem?* = 'Why (is it that) it you have? = Why do you have it?'

CD I Track 9

quer = 'you want'. To make it easier to say, an *e* is added at the end in 'you want it' = *quere-o / a*, but you skate over it.

CD I Track 10

saber = 'to know'. In Portuguese, the 'to' form, the whole verb, ends in *r* and, therefore, is always stressed on the ending.

quero saber = 'I want to know'; *não quero saber* = 'not I want to know = I don't want to know'

posso = 'I can'

pode = 'you can'. Pronunciation: stress the *o*, skate over the *e*. In Portuguese, the stress in the present tense is on the syllable before last.

fazer = 'to do'; *o que posso fazer?* = 'The what I can to do? = What can I do?'

CD 1 Track 11

hoje = 'today'

algo = 'something'

CD 1 Track 22

comer = 'to eat'. Pronunciation of the *r*.

tenho fome = 'I have hunger = I am hungry'; *tem fome* = 'you are hungry'

Pronunciation of the *o*: when stressed should sound like the 'o' of English 'not', and when not stressed should sound almost like the English 'oo', as in 'food'.

CD 2 Track 1

English words ending in '-ary' end in *-ário* in Portuguese: 'necessary' = *necessário*; 'contrary' = *contrário*; 'vocabulary' = *vocabulário*.

Portuguese *u* sounds like English 'oo', not like 'yew'.

preciso de (literally 'I precise of') = 'I need'. With *preciso de*, if you want to say 'I need it', the 'it' will not be *o* / *a* but *dele* (for a masculine thing) and *dela* (for a feminine thing).

Dele / dela = *de* ('of') + *ele / ela* ('he / she' or 'it').

não preciso dele = 'I don't need it'. Although we have *não*, 'it' doesn't go before the verb, because the Portuguese is 'need of it'.

e = 'and'

CD 2 Track 2

ver = 'to see'

vê-lo / vê-la = 'to see it'. When you attach the 'it' to the 'to' form of the verb, it drops the final *r* and the *o / a* turns into *lo / la* to make it easier to say.

não o quero ver (= 'not it I want to see') means the same as *não quero vê-lo* = 'not I want to see it = I don't want to see it'. If there are two or more consecutive verbs in a sentence, the second and subsequent verbs will be in the full form (the 'to' form in English): *quero ver* = 'I want to see'.

fazê-lo / fazê-la = 'to do it'

CD 2 Track 3

Words in English ending in '-ence' and '-ance' end in *-ência* (*-ença*) and *-ância* in Portuguese: 'influence' = *influência*; 'preference' = *preferência*; 'difference' = *diferença*; 'importance' = *importância*.

Most words ending with the letter *-a* are feminine and most words ending with the letter *-o* are masculine.

a diferença = 'the difference'; *uma diferença* = 'a difference'

que = 'what': *Que preferência tem?* = 'What preference do you have?'

Tem preferência? = 'Do you have a preference?' (no 'a' in Portuguese)

por que = 'for what': *Por que restaurante tem preferência?* = 'For what restaurant do you have a preference?'

esta noite = 'this night = tonight'

CD 2 Track 4

onde = 'where'

jantar = 'to dine = to have dinner'

Words ending in '-tion' in English end in *-ção* in Portuguese:

'condition' = *condição*; 'nation' = *nação*; 'situation' = *situação*;

'organization' = *organização*. The *ç* of *-ção* sounds like 's', not 'k'. The

-ção ending is always stressed in Portuguese.

Pronunciation: single -s- between two vowels sounds like a 'z':

posição = 'position'

One English '-tion' word that does not end in -ção in Portuguese:

'reservation' = *reserva*

For feminine things: *a* = 'the'; *uma* = 'a'; for masculine things:

o = 'the'; *um* = 'a'

CD 2 Track 5

de = 'of'; *do / da* = 'of the', from = *de* ('of') + *o / a* (= 'the'): *da reserva* = 'of the reservation'. For the plural just add *s*.

dum / dumá = *de* ('of') + *um / uma* (= 'a') = 'of a': *duma reserva* = 'of a reservation'. When you add *s* to make the plural, the sense is 'some'.

confirmação = 'confirmation': Pronunciation of *ir*: pronounce the *i* and the *r* separately. *ir* in Portuguese does not sound like 'ir' in English.

tipo = 'kind / type': *que tipo de* = 'what type of'

CD 2 Track 6

There are some '-tion' words that end in -ção but are slightly different from the English: 'translation' = *tradução*; 'explanation' = *explicação*. Most words that end in '-ion' in English and in -ção in Portuguese are feminine words, for which 'the' is *a*.

Polite requests: *pode...?* = 'can you...?' = 'will you...?': *Pode fazer uma tradução para mim?* = 'You can to do a translation for me?' = 'Will you do a translation for me?'

por favor = 'for favour = please'

Pronunciation of *x*.

dar = 'to give'

CD 2 Track 7

Verbs that come from nouns that are similar in English and Portuguese (e.g. 'formation' = *formação*) will also be similar in the

two languages. To make the verb in Portuguese, you just add *-ar* to the English verb: 'to form' = *formar*; 'to confirm' = *confirmar*.

The whole form of a verb, the infinitive, is expressed with 'to' in English (for example, 'to eat'). In Portuguese, it is expressed in an ending. There are four endings: *-ar* (*falar* = 'to speak'), *-er* (*comer* = 'to eat'), *-ir* (*sair* = 'to leave / to go out') and *-or* (*pôr* = 'to put').

impressão = 'impression'

CD 2 Track 8

aqui = 'here'. Like *assim*, *aqui* is stressed on the last syllable because Portuguese words with *i* or *u* in the last syllable are stressed on that last syllable. Words ending in *-l* are also stressed on the last syllable: *Portugal*; *Brasil*; *Funchal*; *Miguel*.

Words that end in *-r*, *-l*, *-i* or have *i* or *u* in the last syllable and are not stressed on that last syllable have a written accent to show where the stress goes: *possível*; *provável*.

Pronunciation of *ss*: like English 's'.

Plural of 'it': *os* / *as* = 'them'; *vê-los* / *vê-las* = 'to see them'

o (masculine) and *a* (feminine) not only means 'the' and 'it' in English but also can be used to refer to *o senhor* / *a senhora*. So, 'to see you ('you' = *o senhor* / *a senhora*)' is *vê-lo* / *vê-la*. For the plural just add *s*. *me* = 'me': *ver-me* = 'to see me'

CD 2 Track 9

compreender = 'to understand'

dizer = 'to say', 'to tell'

lhe (same form for masculine and feminine) = '(to) you': *dizer-lhe* = 'to tell you'

Pronunciation of *lh*: similar to English *y*

pode dizer-me and *pode me dizer* (= 'will you tell me') are both correct; the second is more common.

CD 2 Track 10

isto = 'this' (in general)

comprar = 'to buy'

CD 3 Track 1

Revision

CD 3 Track 2

caro (masculine thing), *cara* (feminine thing) = 'expensive': *é muito caro* = 'it is very expensive'

ter = 'to have'

CD 3 Track 3

In English 'to have to' has the same meaning as 'must'. In Portuguese to express that meaning you add *de* to *ter*: *ter de* = 'to have of = must'; *tenho de* = 'I have to / I must'; *tenho de o fazer* = 'I have of it to do = I have to do it'; *tem de* = 'you have to', 'you must'

daqui a pouco = 'from here to little = soon'

quando? = 'when?': *Quando tem de sair?* = 'When do you have to go out?'

CD 3 Track 4

Words ending in '-ical' and '-ic' in English end in *-ico* in Portuguese: 'political' = *político*; 'economic' = *económico*; 'logical' = *lógico*; 'practical' = *prático*.

Portuguese words ending in *a*, *e* or *o* and *m* or *s* are stressed on the syllable before last; if not, they have a written accent (e.g. *José*, *Canadá*).

CD 3 Track 5

In Portuguese to say 'the political situation' you invert the order and say 'the situation political': *a situação política*. The word *político* changes to *política* because *situação* is a feminine word.

Words ending in '-ty' in English end in *-dade* in Portuguese and are all feminine words: 'university' = *universidade*; 'city' = *cidade*; 'society' = *sociedade*.

em = 'in'; *em Portugal* = 'in Portugal'. In Portuguese, 'the' is used in front of the names of most countries (*Portugal* is one exception): *a Itália* (feminine word) ; *o Brasil* (masculine word).

no = *em* ('in') + *o* ('the') = 'in (the)'; *no Brasil*; *na* = *em* ('in') + *a* ('the') = 'in (the)'; *na Itália*

CD 3 Track 6

quanto? = 'how much?': *É quanto?* = *Quanto é?* = 'How much is it?'
se = 'if': *se possível* = 'if possible'; *se não é muito caro* = 'if it is not very expensive'

estou = 'I am'

ocupado (man) / *ocupada* (woman) = 'occupied', 'busy': *estou ocupado* / *ocupada* = 'I am busy'

cansado / *cansada* = 'tired'

CD 3 Track 7

está = 'you are'

casa = 'house': *esta casa* = 'this house'

estar = 'to be'

como = 'how': *Como está?* = 'How are you?'

dia (masculine word) = 'day': *bom dia* = 'good day', 'hello'

CD 3 Track 8

vou = 'I am going'; *vou estar* = 'I am going to be'

não vou comprá-lo / comprá-la = *não o / a vou comprar* = 'I am not going to buy it'

CD 3 Track 9

tarde = 'late';

mais ou menos = 'more or less'

mais tarde = 'more late = later'

tarde (feminine word) = 'afternoon', 'evening'; *boa tarde* = 'good afternoon / evening'

CD 3 Track 10

ligar = 'to call', 'to ring'; *ligar-lhe* = 'to call to you = to call you'

a = 'at'; *hora* = 'hour': *a que horas?* = 'at what hours? = at what time?'

CD 4 Track 1

For all verbs, in Portuguese, the form for 'you' is the same as for 'he / she / it': *vai* = 'you are going to to' and 'he / she / it is going to'. Use a clarifier if it is not clear whom you are talking about or if you want to add emphasis: *ele* (he), *ela* (she) or *o senhor / a senhora* (you) to make it clear: *ela vai fazê-lo* = 'she is going to do it'; *ele vai fazê-lo* = 'he is going to do it'; *o senhor vai fazê-lo* = 'you are going to do it'; *a senhora vai fazê-lo* = 'you are going to do it'.

Pronunciation of *ele* and *ela*: initial e pronounced differently because the following vowel affects the way the first one is pronounced.

CD 4 Track 2

pronto / pronta = 'ready'

tudo = 'all', 'everything'

amanhã = 'tomorrow'

Word order: *Tudo vai estar pronto amanhã* ('all is going to be ready tomorrow') = *Vai estar tudo pronto amanhã* ('it is going to be all ready tomorrow'). No difference in meaning; both ways are correct.

CD 4 Track 3

In Portuguese, there are two verbs for 'to be': *estar* (*estou; está*) and *ser* (*é*). *Estar* expresses a temporary attribute of something: *está pronto* = 'it is ready'. *Ser* expresses a permanent characteristic: *é possível* = 'it is possible'. *Estar* expresses 'to be' at the moment, in the short term: how something is, where something is: something's current state. (One of the meanings of the Portuguese word *estado* is 'state': *Os Estados Unidos do Brasil* = 'The United States of Brazil'.) The verb *ser* expresses the characteristics of what something is and one meaning of the word *ser* is 'being' (as in 'human being'): *o ser humano* = 'the human being'.

sou = 'I am'

inglês (masculine form and also the name of the language) / *inglesa* (feminine form) = 'English'; *português* / *portuguesa* = 'Portuguese'

As a rule first names in Portuguese are preceded by 'the': *o Paulo* = the Paulo = 'Paulo'; *a Maria* = the Maria = 'Maria'.

sei = 'I know'

CD 4 Track 4

doente = 'ill'

bonito / *bonita* = 'pretty'

preparação = 'preparation'; *preparar* = 'to prepare'

Muito also means 'much' or 'very much'. To say 'thank you' in Portuguese you say that you are 'obliged' = *obrigado* / *obrigada*: *muito obrigado* (if you are a man) / *muito obrigada* (if you are a woman) = 'thank you very much'.

CD 4 Track 5

Revision of verbs

com = 'with': *com o senhor / a senhora* = 'with you'; *com ele / ela* = 'with him / her'

comigo = 'with me'

vir = 'to come'

CD 4 Track 6

ir = 'to go'

Stress in the present tense is on the syllable before last (the penultimate syllable). If there are only two syllables, you stress the first syllable. For 'I', you push down on the syllable before last and usually surface on the letter

-o (pronounced 'oo'). Take off the ending (-ar, -er, -ir) of the 'to' form of the verb (the whole verb / the infinitive) and replace it with an -o: *preparar: preparo* = 'I prepare'; *comprar: compro* = 'I buy'; *falar: falo* = 'I speak'; *compreender: compreendo* = 'I understand'; *vender* = 'to sell'; *vendo* = 'I sell'.

Only a few verbs do not surface on -o for the 'I' form: *ser: sou* = 'I am'; *estar: estou* = 'I am'; *ir: vou* = 'I go'; *dar: dou* = 'I give' and *saber: sei* = 'I know'.

CD 4 Track 7

Revision of *o / a*

compro-o covers all the senses 'I buy it / I am buying it / I do buy it'.

CD 4 Track 8

escrever = 'to write'; *escrevo* = 'I write'

todos os dias = all the days = 'everyday'; pronunciation of *s*

For the 'you / he / she / it' form in the present tense of the -ar verbs you push down on the syllable before last and surface on the letter -a: *comprar: compra* = 'you / he / she / it buys'; *preparar: prepara* =

'you / he / she / it prepares'; *falar: fala* = 'you / he / she / it speaks';
 For the 'you / he / she / it' form of the not *-ar* verbs you push down
 on the syllable before last and surface on the letter *-e*: *vender: vende*
 = 'you / he / she / it sells'; *compreender: compreende* = 'you / he
 / she / it understands'; *escrever: escreve* = 'you / he / she / it sells';
partir: parte = 'you / he / she / it leaves'.

CD 4 Track 9

saber: sabe = 'you / he / she / it knows'

Through over-use some verbs in the *-er* group have dropped the *-e*
 at the end of the 'you / he / she / it' form: *fazer: faz* = 'you / he / she
 / it does'; *querer: quer* = 'you / he / she / it wants'; *ter: tem* = 'you /
 he / she / it has'.

sair: sai = 'you / he / she / it leaves'; *vai* = 'you / he / she / it go'

CD 5 Track 1

The Portuguese '*-ing*' tense expresses what you are in the process
 of doing right now. To form it you use *estar* ('to be' in the present
 tense) + *a* ('at') + the 'to' form of the verb: *estou a sair* = 'I am (in
 the process of) going out'; *estou a escrever* = 'I am (in the process
 of) writing'; *O que está a fazer?* = 'What are you doing?'

diz = 'you / he / she / it says'

querer dizer = 'to want to say' and 'to mean': *O que (o senhor / a
 senhora) quer dizer?* = 'What do you want to say?', 'What do you
 mean?'

isto = 'this': *O que quer dizer isto?* = 'The what means this? = What
 does this mean?'

CD 5 Track 2

Revision of the *-ar*, *-er* and *-ir* verbs

CD 5 Track 3

quem? = 'who?': *Quem pode fazê-lo?* = 'Who can do it?'

toda a gente = all the people = 'everyone', 'everybody'

gostar de = 'to like (of)' (*o* unstressed, so pronounced 'oo'); *gosto de*

= 'I like (of)' (first *o* stressed, so pronounced like 'o' of 'not'); *gosto*

dele / dela = 'I like it / him / her'; *gosto de vê-lo / vê-la* = 'I like of to

see you / it / him / her = I like to see you / it / him / her'; *gosto* =

'I like': *gosto muito* = 'I like very much = I like it very much'; *gosto*

muito de escrever = 'I like very much to write'; *gosta?* = 'do you like?';

Gosta de escrever? = 'Do you like to write?'

CD 5 Track 4

For the 'they' (and 'you all') form of verbs in the present, you just add an *-m* (the *m* makes it a nasal sound) after the *-a* or *-e* of 'you / he / she / it' depending on which track you are on: *fala: falam* = 'they speak'; *compra: compram* = 'they buy'; *pode: podem* = 'they can'; *compreende: compreendem* = 'they understand'; *sabe: sabem* = 'they know'.

CD 5 Track 5

With the not *-ar* verbs that lost their *-e* ending, you add back the *-e* before adding the *-m* to show 'they / you all': *faz: fazem* = 'they do / make'; *diz: dizem* = 'they say'. Pronunciation of the *z*.

quer: querem = 'they / you want'

sai: saiem = 'they / you leave'

tem: têm = 'they / you have'

Because the 'they / you all' form ends with *-m*, the *o / a* or *os / as* for 'it / them / you' changes to *no / na / nos / nas*: *fazem-no* ('they are doing it'); *vendem-nas* ('they are selling them').

CD 5 Track 6Revision of present tense

CD 5 Track 7

There are several words for 'you' in Portuguese. With friends and family members, Portuguese speakers use the informal form: *tu*. In the present tense, to obtain the *tu* form you add an -s to the 'you (formal) / he / she / it' form (just as you did with the -m for the 'they' form): *fala: falas* = 'you speak'; *está: estás* = 'you are'; *vende: vendes* = 'you sell'; *comprende: compreendes* = 'you sell'; *faz: fazes* = 'you do'.

este (for masculine things) / *esta* (for feminine things) = 'this': *este livro* = 'this book'; *esta casa* = 'this house'. For the plural you just add -s: *estes / estas* = 'these'.

CD 5 Track 8

If you switch tracks in the present tense (from -a to -e or from -e to -a), that gives you the imperative (the command tense): *compra: compra!* = 'buy!'; *vende: venda!* = 'sell!'; *vendem: vendam!* = 'sell! (addressing a a group); *falam: falem!* = 'speak! (addressing a group).

With *tu* (the informal 'you', for addressing Roberto / Roberta) this also applies but only in 'negative' commands: *não vendes* = 'you don't sell'; *não vendas!* = 'don't sell!'. For the 'positive' commands you drop the s: *vendes* = 'you sell'; *vende!* = 'sell!'

If you use the positive command with a pronoun (e.g. 'me', 'him', 'it', 'them'), hook the pronoun onto the end of the verb. If the verb ends in -m then you add an *n* to the pronoun: *vendam-nas!* = 'sell them!' (talking about several feminine things).

CD 5 Track 9

For the 'we' form of the verb in the present tense: drop the -r of the 'to' form, the whole verb, and add -mos: *falar: falamos* = 'we speak'; *comer: comemos* = 'we eat'; *sair: saímos* = 'we leave'.

vir: vimos = 'we come'; *vender: vendemos* = 'we sell'; *escrever: escrevemos* = 'we write'; *ter: temos* = 'we have'; *fazer: fazemos* = 'we do / make'.

If the 'we' form is followed by a pronoun (e.g. 'me', 'him', 'it', 'them'), the *s* of *-mos* is dropped and we put an *l* in front of the *o / a* or *os / as*, to make it easier to say: *fazemo-lo* = 'we do it'.

CD 5 Track 10

The verb *ir* (= 'to go') is a bit special and the 'we' and 'they / you all' forms don't exactly follow the rule: *vamos* = 'we go'; *vão* = 'they / you go'.

chegar = 'to arrive'; *chegadas* = 'arrivals'

Lisboa = 'Lisbon'; *chegar a Lisboa* = 'to arrive in Lisbon'

CD 5 Track 11

pôr ('to put') is the one verb that forms the family of verbs that ends in *-or*. The *-or* verbs, the fourth group, is very small. It comprises *pôr* and all the verbs formed with it, that is, verbs that end with *-por* in Portuguese and that in English end with '-pose': *opor* = 'to oppose'; *supor* = 'to suppose'; *compor* = 'to compose'.

ponho = 'I put'; *suponho* = 'I suppose'

CD 6 Track 1

The *-zer* verbs: *fazer* = 'to do'; *dizer* = 'to say'; *trazer* = 'to bring'. In the 'I' form in the present tense they also end in *o* but there is a change of consonant: *fazer: faço* = 'I do'; *dizer: digo* = 'I say'; *trazer: trago* = 'I bring'. For this reason we call them the *ço-go* verbs.

digo-lhe = 'I am telling you / I tell him / her'.

trago-o = 'I am bringing it', but the *o* can also refer to a person, 'I am bringing him'.

traz = 'you / he / she / it brings'; *trazem* = 'they bring', 'you bring' (addressing several people)

Informal 'you' form (*tu*): *dizes* = 'you say'; *trazes* = 'you bring'

dizemos = 'we say'; *trazemos* = 'we bring'

CD 6 Track 2

Verbs ending in *-nho* in the 'I' form of the present tense change to *-nha* in the command tense: *ponho: ponha!* = 'put!'; *tenho: tenha...!* = 'have...!'; *venho: venha!* = 'come!'. The same applies if addressing a group ('you all').

To avoid the command tense you can always use the structure: *pode* + whole verb, the 'to' form: *Pode pô-lo aqui, por favor?* = 'Can I will you put it here, please?'

CD 6 Track 3

The *-zer* verbs (*ço-go* verbs) also change from *-o* to *-a* in the command tense for the singular 'you' (*o senhor / a senhora*) and plural 'you' (= 'you all'). You take the 'I' form of the present tense and change the final *-o* to *-a*: *digo: diga!* = 'say it!'; *faço: faça!* = 'do it!'; *trago: traga...!* = 'bring...!' So the *ço-go* verbs change to *ça-ga* in the command tense.

diga-me! = 'tell me!'; *não me diga!* = 'don't tell me!'; *diga-o em português!* = 'Say it in Portuguese!'; *diga-lhe!* = 'tell him / her!'

tragam-no! = 'bring it!' (addressing a group); *não o tragam!* = 'don't bring it!'

não o faça! = 'don't do it!' (addressing Roberto / Roberta = *tu* form)

CD 6 Track 4

ligue-me! = 'call me!'; *não me ligue!* = 'don't call me!' (addressing Roberto / Roberta)

não me digas! = 'don't tell me!' (addressing Roberto / Roberta)

There is only one case when you don't switch tracks in the command tense: when you give a positive command in the *tu* form. You don't switch tracks and you don't add *s*; you actually use a form which is exactly the same as the 'you (formal) / he / she / it' form of the present tense: *liga-me!* = 'call me!'; *compra-o!* = 'buy it!'; *vende-o!* = 'sell it!'

CD 6 Track 5

tens = 'you have'; *vens* = 'you come' (addressing Roberto / Roberta)

vêm = 'you come' (addressing a group)

começar = 'to start'; *começo* = 'I start'; *começa* = 'you (formal) / he / she / it starts'; *começas* = 'you start' (addressing Roberto / Roberta);

começamos = 'we start'; *começam* = 'they / you (all) start'

CD 6 Track 6

pensar = 'to think', 'to plan'; *o que pensa fazer?* = 'what do you plan to do?'

te = 'you' (addressing Roberto / Roberta); *não te compreendo* = 'I don't understand you'; *não te compreendemos* = 'we don't understand you'

contigo = 'with you' (addressing Roberto / Roberta); *Posso falar português contigo?* = 'Can I speak Portuguese with you?'

lento = slowly; *mais lento* = 'more slowly'; *Pode falar mais lento, por favor?* = 'Can you speak more slowly, please?'

CD 6 Track 7

encontrar = 'to find'

encontro = 'I find'; *não o encontro* = 'I don't find it'

o / um encontro = 'the / a meeting'

The verb for 'to be' meaning 'to be (permanently) situated': *ficar*

Onde fica a casa? = 'Where is the house?'; *fica no Brasil* = 'it is (situated) in Brazil'

CD 6 Track 8

levantar = 'to lift up'; *levanto-me* = 'I lift myself up = I get up'

levantamos = 'we are lifting up'; *nos* = 'ourselves': *levantamo-nos* = 'we get up'

levantamo-los = 'we are lifting them up'

A que horas nos levantamos? = 'What time are we getting up?'

levantas-te = 'you are getting up' (addressing Roberto / Roberta): *a que horas te levantas?* = 'What time do you get up / are you getting up?'

se = 'himself / herself / itself / yourself (referring to *o senhor / a senhora*) / themselves / yourselves'

ele / ela levanta-se = 'he / she gets up'; *o senhor / a senhora levanta-se* = 'you get up'; *levantam-se* = 'they get up / you get up' (addressing a group)

CD 6 Track 9

vou levantar-me = 'I am going to get up'; *tenho de levantar-me* = 'I have to get up'

vamos levantar-nos = 'we are going to get up'; *temos de levantar-nos* = 'we have to get up'

tem de se levantar = *tem de levantar-se* = 'he / she has to / you have to get up'

levantar-se is also the 'to' form (the infinitive) of the verb

tem de o levantar = *tem de levántá-lo* = 'he has to lift it / him up'

CD 6 Track 10

ficar = 'to be', 'to stay'

fico = 'I stay', 'I remain': *fico aqui* = 'I am staying here'

quanto tempo? = how much time? = 'how long?'

quantos? = 'how many?': *Quantos dias fica / ficas aqui?* = 'How many days are you staying here?'

uns (plural of *um* = 'a / one', for masculine things) = 'a few', 'some'

umas (plural of *uma* = 'a / one', for feminine things) = 'a few', 'some'

ficamos uns dias = 'we are staying a few days'; *vamos ficar umas*

horas = 'we are going to stay a few hours'

fique = 'stay': *fique uns dias!* = 'stay a few days!'

Like *dia*, a small number of words in Portuguese end in *a* but are masculine: *o problema* = 'the problem'; *o sistema* = 'the system'; *o drama* = 'the drama'.

CD 7 Track 1

há = 'there is', 'there are': *não há problema* = 'there is no problem'

muito / muita = 'many': *muita gente* = 'many people'

vemo-nos = 'we meet / we see each other'. This *nos* has two meanings: it can mean 'we see ourselves' but it can also mean 'we see each other', when it has a sense of reciprocity.

Revision of the position of the pronoun

CD 7 Track 2

In Portuguese, you often use the present tense to indicate the future. 'I call you (ring you) tomorrow' is correct Portuguese, whereas in English you would say 'I'll call you tomorrow'. But if you use the present tense to mean the future, you need to add some time indication, like *mais tarde* = 'later'; *amanhã* = 'tomorrow', to show that it is the future.

You can also use the 'to be going to' form to express the future, which in Portuguese is made up of the verb *ir* (= 'to go') in the present tense + the 'to' form of the verb: *vou ligar-te esta noite* = 'I am going to call you this evening'.

Another way to convey the future in English is by using 'will'. To make this form in Portuguese, you take the whole verb (the 'to' form / the infinitive) and add the ending *-ei* for 'I' and *-emos* for 'we'.

In the future tense in Portuguese you hit the ending.

falar: falarei = 'I will speak'

comer: comerei = 'I will eat'

começar: começaremos = 'we will start' (pronunciation: stress the *re*)

partir: partiremos = 'we will leave'

CD 7 Track 3

esperar = 'to wait', 'to hope'; *espero* = 'I hope / wait'; *esperarei* = 'I will hope / wait'; *esperaremos* = 'we will hope / wait'

ficarei = 'I will stay'

In the future tense in Portuguese, when you add a pronoun (like 'it', 'him', 'her', 'you') to the phrase, you end up with a 'sandwich', because you have to put the pronoun between the verb and the ending: *comprá-lo-ei* = 'I will buy it'. One way to avoid this difficult mouthful is by using the 'going to' future instead: *vou comprá-lo* = 'I am going to buy it'; *vais ligar-me* = 'you are going to call me' (addressing Roberto / Roberta).

CD 7 Track 4

The remaining endings of the future tense (with 'will') are: *-ás* for 'you (informal)'; *-á* for 'you (formal) / he / she / it' and *-ão* for 'you all' and 'they'.

comprarás = 'you will buy' (addressing Roberto / Roberta); *comprará* = 'you will buy'; *comprarão* = 'you all / they will buy'

CD 7 Track 5

demasiado = 'too much': *é demasiado caro* = 'it is too expensive'

The endings of the future tense in Portuguese are the same for all verbs.

Estarei aqui umas horas = 'I will be here a few hours'.

CD 7 Track 6

será = 'it will be'

irei = 'I will go'

CD 7 Track 7

The *-zer* verbs (*ço-go* verbs in the present tense) go their own way in the future. For these verbs you don't use the whole verb, rather you drop the *-zer* and add *-rei, -rás -rá; -remos, -rão*.

fazer: *farei* = 'I will do'; *fará* = 'you (formal) he / she / it will do'; *farás* = 'you (informal) will do'; *faremos* = 'we will do'; *farão* = 'you all / they will do'

dizer: *direi* = 'I will say'; *dirá* = 'you (formal) he / she / it will say'; *dirás* = 'you (informal) will say'; *diremos* = 'we will say'; *dirão* = 'you all / they will say'

trazer: *trarei* = 'I will bring'; *trará* = 'you (formal) he / she / it will bring'; *trará*s = 'you (informal) will bring'; *traremos* = 'we will bring'; *trarão* = 'you all / they will bring'

CD 7 Track 8

Double negative

nada = 'nothing'; *não traremos nada* = 'we will not bring nothing = we will not bring anything'

CD 7 Track 9

What applies for the future tense (with 'will') applies to 'would', the conditional. The endings in Portuguese are *-ria, -rias, -ria, -ríamos, -riam*.

seria necessário = 'it would be necessary'

faria = 'I would do'

The 'sandwich' also applies: *fá-lo-ia* = 'I would do it'

CD 7 Track 10

ter: *tere* = 'I will have'; *terá* = 'he / she / it / you will have'; *teria* = 'I / he / she / it / you would have'

Two ways of saying 'I would like': *gostaria de* = 'I would like (of)':

gostaria de vê-lo = 'I would like to see it'; *queria* = 'I wanted = 'I would like': *queria vê-lo* = 'I would like to see it'

CD 7 Track 11

The past tense (to express something that happened once and is finished): for 'I' in the past we hit the ending: 'past is last'. Take off the *-ar* / *-er* / *-ir* and add the ending *-ei* on the *-ar* track and *-i* on the *-er* and *-ir* tracks: *comprar*: *comprei* = 'I bought / have bought'; *vender*: *vendi* = 'I sold / have sold'; *partir*: *partii* = 'I left / have left'.

For 'you (formal) / he / she / it' you hit the ending again. Take off the *-ar* / *-er* / *-ir* and add the ending *-ou* on the *-ar* track, *-eu* on the *-er* track and *-iu* on the *-ir* track: *ele comprou* = 'he bought / has bought'; *ele vendeu* = 'he sold / has sold'; *ele partiu* 'he left / has left'.
ontem = 'yesterday'

CD 7 Track 12

For 'we' in the past tense just replace the *-r* of the whole verb ending with *-mos*, which makes the past tense for 'we' sound the same as the present.

CD 8 Track 1

For 'you all' and 'they' in the past tense you just add *-am* to the whole verb: *compraram*, *venderam*, *partiram*.

For 'you' (addressing Roberto / Roberta = *tu* form) in the past tense you use the *s* of the verb ending of the present tense and the *te* meaning 'you' and combine them in the ending *-ste* which you add to the whole verb after taking off the *-r*: *compraste*, *vendeste*, *partiste*.

CD 8 Track 2

Practice with the past tense

CD 8 Track 3

Sim, gostei. = 'Yes, I liked it.' In Portuguese, the 'it' is omitted.

CD 8 Track 4

esperar = 'to wait', 'to hope'. In Portuguese you don't need to say 'for': *espero-o* = 'I am awaiting you = I am waiting for you'; *espera-o* = 'he is waiting for you'; *esperam-me* = 'they are waiting for me'

CD 8 Track 5

esperemos! = 'let's wait!'; *comamos!* = 'let's eat!'

CD 8 Track 6

perguntar = 'to ask': *gostaria de perguntar* = 'I would like to ask';
perguntar-lhe = 'to ask you'; *dizer-lhe* = 'to tell you'

para = 'for', 'in order to': *para perguntar* = 'in order to ask'; *para lhe perguntar / para perguntar-lhe* = 'to ask you / him / her'

CD 8 Track 7

chegar: *chega* = 'you (formal) / he / she / it arrives'; *cheguei* = 'I arrived'

acabar de = 'to finish (of)': *acabo de chegar / acabei de chegar* = 'I have just arrived'

acabo de chegar aqui há uns dias = 'I just arrived here a few days ago'

CD 8 Track 8

Differences between Brazilian and European Portuguese

Differences in pronunciation of vowels: vowels sound more open in Brazilian Portuguese

Differences in pronunciation of consonants: the final *l* and *s*, the *s* before a *t*; *d* and *t* before an *e* and *i*, the initial *r*

Differences in usage of pronouns

The equivalent in usage to the informal 'you' in Brazil is *você*. (The *tu* form is used to address God.)

European Portuguese: *não te compreendo; a que horas te levantas?*

Brazilian Portuguese: *não compreendo você; a que horas você se levanta?*

Differences when expressing the continuous tense ('to be in the process of doing'): European Portuguese: *estou a escrever*; Brazilian Portuguese: *estou escrevendo*

Differences in vocabulary: *botar* for *pôr*, *todo o mundo* for *toda a gente*

Reading of a text to illustrate the differences

Millions of people worldwide speak a new language thanks to the Michel Thomas Method.



Here's what people say about Michel Thomas:

"This guy is one of my heroes."

"What a legend. I love his method."

"Definitely the best way to learn."

"Just after a couple of days I'm confident that I will be able to speak directly."

"It's the best way to learn a foreign language."

"Totally life changing."

"The Michel Thomas course is much the easiest to make progress with."

"He's the best."

"A truly inspirational way to learn a language."

"With Michel you learn a language effortlessly."



*"The nearest thing to
painless learning."*

The Times